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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL.

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# Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1942

BY

CONSTANT PONDER, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

*County Medical Officer of Health.*

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
COUNTY HALL,  
MAIDSTONE.

*4th January, 1944.*

**To the Chairman and Members of the Kent County Council.**

MY LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions in the Administrative County of Kent for the year ending December 31st, 1942.

It is impossible to deny that as the war progresses, affairs in this Department become more difficult. The excessive work demanded by Government Departments to meet abnormal conditions, the actual increase of illnesses which are associated with war conditions, the shortage of labour due to the fact that so many of the experienced staff are away on active service and their places are taken by temporary, and often untrained, staff, are examples of the factors which make administration far more difficult than in the time of peace. In fact, I do not think it is unfair to say that in Kent, owing to its geographical position, conditions as a result of war have been at least as difficult as those in any other Counties in the country.

As examples of the excessive work required by the Government one may point to the development of Emergency Maternity Homes and War-time Nurseries (to enable mothers to take up war-time work).

Diseases which have increased as a result of war are chiefly Tuberculosis and Venereal Disease. In both these diseases there have been rather serious increases and it is unlikely that we may expect any fall in incidence for some time to come. Fortunately, in other diseases, generally speaking, there has been no increase and it is remarkable in what a good state of health the people find themselves after over four years of war.

As regards Tuberculosis, there is a most serious shortage of beds, not only in Kent but throughout the whole country, and the waiting list tends to become most unmanageable. Every effort has been made, and is still being made, to develop new accommodation for treatment for these patients, but the whole subject has many difficulties, of which shortage of staff is a very important one. In addition, constant problems are arising owing to the shortage of nurses generally resulting in a difficulty to make full use of the beds in acute and chronic hospitals, sanatoria, convalescent homes, etc.

Nevertheless, in spite of these difficulties this Department can show, I think, a record of work of which your Committee need not be ashamed, and this result is certainly mainly due to the hard work and long hours put in by the Deputy County Medical Officers and the Officers in charge of sections. It is only fair that I should express here my recognition of the valuable and loyal work carried out under difficult conditions by all my colleagues on the staff, working both in Maidstone and at the hospitals, maternity and convalescent homes, sanatoria, clinics, etc. in other parts of Kent.

I have again to record my deep appreciation of the unfailing help and encouragement given to me by all the Members of the Public Health Committee.

I am,

Yours obediently,

CONSTANT PONDER,

County Medical Officer.

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Committee reports to the County Council on all matters concerning the Public Health. Its constitution as at 1st October, 1943 was as follows :—

† BLACKMAN, E. R.	† KIRBY, MAJOR M. T., D.S.O.
BURGES, The Rev. R.	LARKING, C. G.
† COLTHUP, W. (Chairman of the Finance Committee).	† MORGAN, The Rev. S. J. W.
† ELGOOD, C. A. (Chairman of the Committee).	NEWMAN, W.
† GIFFARD, CAPT. H. G., R.N.	† PRESTEDGE, T. H.
† HARDY, EDWARD (Chairman of the County Council).	† PYM, MAJOR C. E., C.B.E., (Vice-Chairman of the County Council).
HASLUCK, E. L.	RENTON, Dr. M. W.
HEILBRON, LT-COL. E. J.	† RULE, R. W.
† HODES, F. P.	† SKINNER, J. E.
† HOLNESS, A. H.	† SMITH, LT-COL. C. A. Johnstone.
IGGLESDEN, SIR CHARLES.	† STORER, H. N.
	† WEBB, G.
	WIGAN, MISS E. J.

† Indicates Members of the General and Estimates and Bills Sub-Committee. (*Chairman*, C. A. Elgood).

Persons who are not Members of the Council :—

Mrs. E. E. FRENCH, of Little Rayham, Newington, Sittingbourne.  
 J. E. FRENCH, of Little Rayham, Newington, Sittingbourne.  
 Mrs. A. E. OSBORNE, of North End House, Southfleet.  
 Mrs. A. Y. SPURRELL, of "Dornhurst," Dunton Green.

The following represent the County Council on the Committee of Management of the Alexandra Hospital for Children, at Luton; in connection with the County Orthopædic Scheme :—Mr. E. R. Blackman, Major M. T. Kirby, Mrs. L. Lyle, Miss L. M. Rendel, and Mr. A. G. A. Salter.

CLERK OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND CLERK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEES :—W. L. Platts.



# LOCAL AUTHORITIES

BOROUGHES AND URBAN.

Urban and Borough Councils.	Clerks. (1943.)	Medical Officers of Health. (1943).	Public Health Staff.		†Date of Receipt of Annual Summary in 1943.
			Sani- tary Inspec- tors.	Clerical.	
Ashford U. ...	J. Sudlow ...	*J. Marshall ...	2†	2	July 17th
Beckenham B. ...	C. E. Staddon ...	*T. P. Cole ...	3†	5	June 25th
Bexley B. ...	W. Woodward ...	*G. F. Bramley ...	5†	7	July 22nd
Broadstairs U. ...	E. F. Owen ...	*J. V. Walker ...	1†	1	July 29th
Bromley B. ...	S. C. Auty ...	*K. E. Tapper ...	4†	4	Sept. 21st
Chatham B. ...	E. B. Lee ...	*J. C. Sleight ...	3†	5	July 1st
Chislehurst and Sidcup U. ...	E. T. Chater... ..	*P. N. Cave ...	5(4†)	3	July 23rd
Crayford U. ...	L. Burslem ...	C. M. Ockwell ...	2(1†)	2	July 1st
Dartford B. ...	J. J. Hurtley ...	T. Farthing ...	2†	1	Aug. 27th
Deal B. ...	D. A. Daniels ...	D. W. Kirk ...	1	2	July 16th
Dover B....	S. R. H. Loxton ...	*T. J. Nicholl ...	2†	1	July 14th
Erith B. ...	D. S. Twigg ...	*R. A. Leader ...	4(3†)	12	Aug. 11th
Faversham B. ...	Guy Tassell ...	C. J. Evers ...	1†	—	June 28th
Folkestone B. ...	F. Heywood ...	*A. Priestman ...	3†	2	June 23rd
Gillingham B. ...	R. Booth ...	*W. A. Muir... ..	4†	5	June 30th
Gravesend B. ...	H. H. Brown ...	*H. S. Davies ...	4(3†)	4	July 28th
Herne Bay U. ...	A. H. Edwards ...	*G. L. Brocklehurst	2(1†)	1	Aug. 4th
Hythe B. ...	H. Stainer ...	*W. W. Nuttall ...	1†	—	July 2nd
Lydd B. ...	W. Lamacraft ...	A. McMillan ...	1	—	July 14th
Maidstone B. ...	G. Wilson ...	*P. J. Gaffikin ...	4(2†)	3	Sept. 28th
Margate B. ...	P. T. Grove ...	*G. L. Brocklehurst	1†	2	Sept. 17th
New Romney B. ...	W. Lamacraft ...	A. McMillan ...	1	—	July 14th
Northfleet U. ...	W. G. Fletcher ...	*M. F. McDonnell ...	2†	—	July 30th
Orpington U. ...	L. O. Wall ...	*P. N. Cave ...	4†	1	July 23rd
Penge U ...	A. J. Elson ...	B. E. Hawkins (Temp'ry)...	2†	2	July 23rd
Queenborough B. ...	F. Marshall ...	*H. S. Griffith ...	1	—	July 29th
Ramsgate B. ...	H. G. Curtis ...	*J. V. Walker ...	3†	1	July 12th
Rochester City ...	J. L. Percival ...	*J. O. Murray ...	4(3†)	4	Sept. 14th
Sandwich B. ...	L. N. Watts ...	*A. B. McMaster ...	1	—	July 27th
Sevenoaks U. ...	G. T. Bradbury ...	*P. N. Cave ...	1†	1	Aug. 6th
Sheerness U. ...	H. V. Stallon ...	*H. S. Griffith ...	1†	—	July 29th
Sittingbourne and Milton U. ...	G. H. Potter ...	*F. Wolverson ...	1†	3	July 3rd
Southborough U. ...	W. N. Wood ...	R. J. Chapman ...	2	—	July 29th
Swanscombe U. ...	H. Tuffee ...	C. M. Ockwell ...	2	—	Sept. 22nd
Tenterden B. ...	I. T. Emberson ...	*A. W. Gaye... ..	1	—	Sept. 2nd
Tonbridge U. ...	S. J. Thorne... ..	R. J. Chapman ...	2†	—	July 29th
Tunbridge Wells B. ...	J. Whitehead ...	*F. C. Linton ...	4(3†)	4	July 9th
Whitstable U. ...	W. K. Morris ...	C. E. Etheridge (Temp'ry)	2(1†)	—	July 20th
RURAL.					
Ashford, East ...	F. Webb ...	*W. W. Nuttall ...	1	—	July 2nd
Ashford, West ...	W. H. Carter ...	*W. W. Nuttall ...	1†	1	July 2nd
Bridge-Blean ...	L. J. Williams ...	*W. G. Evans ...	3(1†)	1	Sept. 29th
Cranbrook ...	Eric Clarke ...	*A. W. Gaye ...	2	—	Sept. 2nd
Dartford ...	E. James ...	J. S. Rogers ...	1†	1	Aug. 19th
Dover ...	H. F. Abbott ...	*A. B. McMaster ...	1	1	Aug. 4th
Eastry ...	F. A. Cloke ...	*A. B. McMaster ...	1	—	July 27th
Elham ...	D. S. Harrison ...	*W. W. Nuttall ...	1†	—	July 2nd
Hollingbourn ...	F. Miskin ...	*P. J. Gaffikin ...	2(1†)	1	Sept. 30th
Maidstone ...	F. D. Thomas ...	*A. W. Gaye ...	2(1†)	1	Sept. 2nd
Malling ...	F. Miskin ...	N. H. Bolton ...	2	1	July 3rd
Romney Marsh ...	W. Lamacraft ...	A. McMillan ...	1	—	July 14th
Sevenoaks ...	J. Mudd ...	*P. N. Cave ...	3†	1	July 23rd
Sheppey ...	H. T. Copland ...	*H. S. Griffith ...	1	—	July 29th
Strood ...	A. E. Stroud... ..	*M. F. McDonnell ...	1	—	Sept. 15th
Swale ...	Guy Tassell ...	P. Selby ...	2(1†)	1	July 30th
Tenterden ...	P. G. Banfield ...	*A. W. Gaye ...	1†	—	Sept. 2nd
Tonbridge ...	B. Lee ...	R. J. Chapman ...	1†	1	July 29th

\* Denotes whole-time officer.

† Each Medical Officer of Health has supplied information in reply to a summary of questions addressed from the County Health Department, on which this report is mainly based. The annual report has also been used where available.

‡ Holds meat inspector's certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

# ANNUAL REPORT

## Section A

### VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.—The total population of the combined urban districts was 896,600 : and of the combined rural districts 274,700.

BIRTHS.—The births of 20,709 living children were registered in 1942, an increase of 3,086 on the previous year's total. The total was made up of 10,626 males and 10,083 females.

The excess of births over deaths was 5,905,—2,927 males, 2,978 females.

The birth-rates for the year were 17.9 for the combined urban districts, 17.0 for the combined rural districts, and 17.7 for the County as a whole. Each of these figures shows a noticeable increase over the preceding year. The figure for England and Wales was 15.8.

STILL-BIRTHS.—Still births recorded during the year totalled 593—79 more than in the previous year. The number in each sanitary district is shown in the Tables 6 and 7 at the end of the report.

The rate of still-births in the county, per thousand of the population, was 0.51, which compares favourably with the rates for England and Wales (0.54), the 126 great towns (0.66) and the 148 smaller towns (0.62). The rate in the combined urban areas was 0.53, and in the combined rural areas 0.46.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—Infantile death-rate was 42 per thousand births. The urban figure was 42, the rural rate was 43. The rates in the different sanitary districts will be found in Tables 6 and 7 at the end of this report. The county figure compares well with the recorded rates for England and Wales (49) and the great towns (59).

DEATHS.—The net number of deaths registered in the county was 14,804 : and the allocation of deaths to individual areas results in crude death-rates of 12.7 for the combined urban areas, 12.5 for the combined rural districts, and 12.7 for the whole county. The rate for England and Wales was 11.6.

(For some years past a "comparable death-rate" has been calculated in respect of each district: this was done by applying to the crude death-rate of an area, a factor which made such death-rate comparable with other areas by allowing for variations in the age and sex constitution of the population. The variety and magnitude of local population movements, however, and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths, have combined to prevent such comparability, and the preparation of the factors has been suspended during present conditions).

ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.—The following tabulation gives particulars relative to the prevalence of, and the mortality from, the seven chief zymotic diseases in Kent during 1942. The figures relate to the civil population only ; and the table shows (for purposes of comparison) the mortality record in the whole of England and Wales during the same period :—

DISEASE.	Number of Cases.	Number of Deaths.	Rates of Deaths.		Death-rate in England and Wales in 1942 per 1,000 living persons.
			Per 100 persons attacked.	Per 1,000 persons living	
Small-pox ... ..	None	None	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2,431	3	0.124	0.003	0.00
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	444	22	4.955	0.019	0.05
Enteric, Typhus and Continued Fevers ...	18	3	16.667	0.003	0.00
Measles and Rubella...	9,354	3	0.033	0.003	0.01
Whooping-cough ...	2,917	29	0.995	0.025	0.02
*Diarrhoea, including Enteritis (under two years) ...	Not notifiable	80	?	3.864*	5.2*
Totals ... ..	—	140	—	0.120	—

\*The figures relating to diarrhoea have reference to children dying under two years of age, per thousand births.

## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases in each of the sanitary districts in Kent is shown in Tables 8 and 9 at the end of this report.

The following is a summary of the death-rates, and the numbers of notifications of small-pox, scarlet fever, diphtheria and enteric fever during the past ten years, and the death rates from measles and whooping cough during the same period :—

Year.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942	
										Kent.	England and Wales
Small-pox cases	3	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	
Death-rate ...	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>	0.002	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>	<i>nil.</i>
Scarlet Fever Cases ...	3,273	4,158	2,670	2,339	2,423	2,913	2,721	1,293	1,214	2,431	
Death-rate ...	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.008	0.005	0.003	0.001	0.003	0.00
Diphtheria Cases ...	980	1,521	1,248	768	1,109	1,361	951	527	517	444	
Death-rate ...	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.042	0.017	0.026	0.023	0.019	0.05
Enteric Fever Cases ...	54	33	59	62	60	54	47	48	107	18	
Death-rate ...	0.01	0.005	0.004	0.006	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.004	0.002	0.003	0.00
Measles Cases ...			<i>Not notifiable</i>					2972	17094	9354	
Death-rate ...	0.005	0.038	0.010	0.052	0.002	0.032	0.001	0.003	0.019	0.003	0.01
Whooping Cough Cases ...			<i>Not notifiable</i>					380	5148	2917	
Death-rate ...	0.046	0.035	0.014	0.038	0.033	0.008	0.026	0.007	0.054	0.025	0.02

SCARLET FEVER.—The notifications totalled 2,431, which represents an incidence rate of 2.08 per thousand. There were three deaths from the disease.

DIPHTHERIA.—Notifications fell to 444, the lowest figure for many years, with an incidence rate of 0.38. There were 22 deaths, giving a death rate of 0.019.

There is now an immunisation scheme in every district in the county, and from the references in the annual reports of the districts it would appear that thousands of children are now being immunised each year, despite war-time conditions.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Only eighteen cases were notified, the lowest total recorded for several years : but the death rate shows a slight increase.

MEASLES.—There were 9,354 notifications, with three deaths. Tables 8 and 9 at the end of the report show the incidence in each district.

WHOOPIING-COUGH.—Notifications totalled 2,917, and there were 29 deaths. Cases occurring in each district are shown in Tables 8 and 9.



## NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Mortality rates per thousand of the civil population, from influenza and diarrhoea during the past ten years :—

Year.	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	
										Kent	England and Wales
Influenza	0.48	0.134	0.139	0.121	0.390	0.127	0.209	0.192	0.155	0.082	0.09
Diarrhoea	4.111 0.058	4.935 0.071	4.244 0.063	3.072 0.045	5.588 0.082	4.210 0.063	3.420 0.052	3.095 0.047	3.235 0.049	3.864 0.069	5.2 —

INFLUENZA.—Deaths from this disease fell from 180 in 1941 to 95 in 1942 : and the death-rate was reduced to 0.082, the lowest figure for many years.

DIARRHŒA.—Of the eighty deaths under two years of age, sixty-one occurred in urban districts and nineteen in rural areas.

The death rates shown in the above tabulation relate to children dying under two years of age per 1000 births (upper figure), and to total deaths per 1000 of the population (lower figure).

CANCER.—The following tabulation shows the mortality from cancer recorded in Kent during the past ten years :—

Kent.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
URBAN.										
No. of Deaths	1,470	1,520	1,715	1,732	1,661	1,889	1,833	1,801	1,766	1,804
Death-rate	1.65	1.57	1.68	1.64	1.54	1.72	1.66	1.79	2.01	2.02
RURAL.										
No. of Deaths	579	498	449	487	485	479	511	480	513	486
Death-rate	1.63	1.61	1.61	1.75	1.73	1.70	1.71	1.55	1.80	1.77
TOTAL.										
No. of Deaths	2,049	2,018	2,164	2,219	2,146	2,368	2,344	2,281	2,279	2,290
Death-rate	1.64	1.58	1.67	1.67	1.58	1.71	1.67	1.73	1.96	1.96
England and Wales.										
Death-rate	1.53	1.56	1.59	1.63	1.64	1.67	1.67	1.72	1.78	



The age and sex distribution of the deaths, during the same period of ten years, is as follows :—

		All ages.	0-1.	1-2.	2-5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-45.	45-65.	65 up- wards.
1933.	(M. ... F. ...)	914 1,135	— 1	— —	2 1	4 3	4 4	43 73	322 443	539 610
1934.	(M. ... F. ...)	922 1,096	— —	— —	2 1	2 5	4 1	40 81	358 437	516 571
1935.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,038 1,126	2 —	1 —	1 1	— 3	4 3	42 84	419 429	569 606
1936.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,023 1,196	— 1	— 1	1 —	3 —	6 1	51 67	390 465	572 661
1937.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,051 1,095	— 1	— —	1 —	7 3	3 5	55 66	386 433	599 587
1938.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,095 1,273	— 1	1 2	1 —	— —	6 5	50 94	427 490	610 681
1939.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,153 1,191	— —	1 —	1 1	2 2	6 4	58 82	388 472	607 630
1940.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,111 1,170	— —	— —	2 —	2 1	64 88	— —	416 457	627 624
1941.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,075 1,204	— —	— —	3 1	3 4	69 112	— —	387 437	613 650
1942.	(M. ... F. ...)	1,156 1,134	— 1	— —	2 1	4 2	72 94	— —	411 440	667 596

## Section C

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The area for which the County Council is the executive authority varies with different services concerned. It is the authority for fifty-four of the fifty-six urban and rural districts under the Midwives Acts, thirty-two for Maternity and Child Welfare and twenty-three for the Registration of Nursing Homes.

The work of this Section is mainly concerned with :—

1. The provision of :—
  - (a) A whole-time Salaried Midwifery Service throughout the County Midwifery Area.
  - (b) The visitation of newly born children, and children up to five years of age.
  - (c) Over 185 Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, Ante and Post-natal Clinics.
  - (d) Institutional accommodation, etc. for complicated maternity cases or cases where the home conditions are unsuitable for confinement.
  - (e) Home Helps during the lying-in period and during the illness of mothers of children under the age of five years ; and
  - (f) Day and Residential Nurseries.
  - (g) Various treatment for nursing and expectant mothers and children under the age of five years, etc. throughout the County Maternity and Child Welfare Area.
2. The supervision of the :—
  - (i) 414 midwives who attended, as midwives, 10,536 of the 18,844 births notified during the year.
  - (ii) 210 foster-parents having the care of 267 nurse-children.
  - (iii) Thirty nursing homes providing accommodation for 204 patients.

All the above services have been fully maintained throughout the year.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME—EXPECTANT MOTHERS.—This scheme proceeded satisfactorily and the number of women seeking admission from the evacuation areas has increased. Vacancies in the Homes, not filled by applicants coming under the Evacuation scheme, are used for county maternity patients, thus relieving the strain on the hospital maternity units. Beds in the Hostels are also utilised for County patients to be admitted to the County Hospital, Pembury, who live at some distance. This means that a long journey is not entailed during labour.

An additional Hostel was opened on July 9th, 1943, at 15, Broadwater Down, Tunbridge Wells.

The number of women admitted to the Hostels and confined at the Homes, during the year, is as follows :—

HOSTELS.				HOMES.			
The Paveys, Langton	...	...	234	Northfield, Langton.	...	...	266
Romford Farm House, Lower				22, Broadwater Down,			
Pembury	...	...	183	Tunbridge Wells.	...	...	314
13 Broadwater Down, Tunbridge							
Wells. (Opened April 9th, 1942)			196				

WAR TIME NURSERIES.—The war time nurseries continue to be used to capacity. In addition to the importance to the health of the children attending and the convenience to the mothers, the nurseries are proving an excellent means of providing employment for girls of the 16 to 18 age group during the period between leaving school and taking up nursing as a career. The training in the care of babies and young children is of value to all girls and is a useful preparation for nursing.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.—In view of the increased incidence of venereal disease throughout the country, all medical officers of ante-natal clinics have been instructed to carry out blood tests as a routine in all cases, and this procedure is readily accepted by the women who attend the clinics, although some medical officers have not adopted it on the grounds that by doing so the attendances at the clinics would be reduced.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The following figures show certain infantile mortality rates\*per thousand births during each of the last six years :—

	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Kent Urban Districts	50.00	42.29	35.55	42.84	42.86	41.70
Kent Rural Districts	47.00	45.01	42.33	46.38	41.39	42.47
Whole County	49.00	42.83	36.90	43.63	42.49	41.86
Area of County Scheme	47.00	40.35	40.05	43.68	42.98	39.88
Rest of Kent	49.95	44.14	35.21	43.60	42.20	43.01
England and Wales	58	53	50	55	59	49

It is satisfactory to note that the rate in the County Maternity and Child Welfare area is well below that for England and Wales, but there is no doubt that a still greater decrease is possible.

The figure of 37 per thousand in 1938 for Holland shows what can be achieved. It is regrettable to note that the infant mortality rate amongst illegitimate infants is still so very much higher than the general rate and proves that much work is needed in making adequate provision for the unmarried mother and her child.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.—The following tabulation shows the number of deaths of women in child-birth, in Kent, since 1931. For comparative purposes, the average figures for the five years 1938–1942 and the thirty five years 1908–1942, are shown :—

Year.	Number of births.	Puerperal Sepsis.		Other puerperal causes.		Total deaths.	Total rate per 1,000 births.
		Number of deaths.	Rate per 1,000 births.	Number of deaths.	Rate per 1,000 births.		
1931 ... ..	17,673	23	1.4	30	1.7	53	3.0
1932 ... ..	17,725	17	1.0	40	2.3	57	3.3
1933 ... ..	17,514	35	2.0	35	2.0	70	4.0
1934 ... ..	18,393	34	1.8	39	2.1	73	4.0
1935 ... ..	19,087	22	1.2	39	2.1	61	3.2
1936 ... ..	19,534	25	1.3	32	1.7	57	3.0
1937 ... ..	20,044	15	0.8	40	2.0	55	2.8
1938 ... ..	20,666	19	0.9	33	1.6	52	2.5
1939 ... ..	21,080	12	0.6	33	1.7	45	2.1
1940 ... ..	19,715	10	0.6	29	1.5	39	2.0
1941 ... ..	17,623	12	0.7	28	1.6	40	2.3
1942 ... ..	20,709	12	0.6	32	1.6	44	2.2
Average of five years 1938-42 ... ..	19,959	13	0.7	31	1.6	44	2.3
Average of thirty-five years 1908-42 ... ..	19,721	22	1.1	44	2.3	65	3.4
England and Wales, 1942	—	—	0.42	—	1.59	—	2.01

PUERPERAL INFECTION.—The following figures show the number of notifications of puerperal pyrexia and deaths from puerperal sepsis during the past five years :—

*Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia.*

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Whole County ... ..	217	246	142	145	200
County Area ... ..	70	66	52	41	60

*Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis.*

	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.
Whole County ... ..	19	12	10	12	12
County Area ... ..	5	5	4	2	6

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—The figures below refer to the notification and treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum in the county area, but a comparison with the figures for the whole county is shown for 1942 :—

	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	Whole County 1942.
Cases Notified ... ..	13	9	9	4	10	17	56
Treated							
At Home ... ..	8	6	7	—	5	11	31
In Hospital ... ..	5	3	2	4	5	6	25
Vision							
Unimpaired ... ..	12	6	7	3	9	15	44
Impaired ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total blindness ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No information ... ..	1	3	2	1	1	2	11
Death ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

The increase in the numbers shows the necessity for investigating all ante-natal patients regarding the presence of gonorrhoeal infection.

As a precautionary measure against ophthalmia neonatorum all midwives in the county area are provided with outfits containing one per cent. solution of silver nitrate with instructions to place one drop in each eye of newly born infants immediately after the baby has been bathed and the eyes carefully wiped with cotton wool.



## Section D

### TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Considerable difficulties were experienced during the year in providing the necessary institutional accommodation for the treatment of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. The County Council provides from its own resources some 350 beds for this purpose, and by the use of some 36 outside agencies utilises another 300 beds. It is now considered that the number of beds to be provided for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis should approximate to three beds for every two annual deaths from tuberculosis. This would mean that in the case of Kent approximately 1,000 beds are now required for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis and it will be seen therefore that there is a shortage of some 350 beds. There is no possibility of this number being made available in the immediate future because of staffing difficulties and also of restrictions on new building. It will be recalled that immediately prior to the war the Council was preparing to erect a sanatorium of 450 beds in North-West Kent, and had this been completed many of the difficulties now experienced would have been met. Unfortunately, the increasing demand for institutional accommodation in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis has been accompanied in all parts of the country by staffing difficulties and a general shortage of accommodation.

A considerable easing of the problem of providing institutional accommodation for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis could be achieved if more nurses were available, and in this connection it cannot be too strongly emphasised that the risks of nursing staff in looking after tuberculous subjects are extremely small, and, in fact, it is doubtful if the risks are any higher than in other forms of nursing, or indeed in everyday life.

Both of the Council's sanatoria are approved for training in regard to the Certificate of the Tuberculosis Association, and at the Kettlewell Hospital this training scheme has been particularly successful. It is intended that after the nurses have passed two years in the sanatoria and secured the Certificate of the Tuberculosis Association they would then proceed to a general hospital and do two further years to become State Registered nurses.

### TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

TABLE 1.—Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis, and of deaths from the disease in Kent during 1942.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ... ..	1	—	1	2	1	2	4	4
1—5 ... ..	8	8	32	21	2	—	20	18
5—10 ... ..	28	12	48	41	4	2	9	9
10—15 ... ..	27	12	25	17				
15—20 ... ..	76	98	19	22	195	172	28	31
20—25 ... ..	113	130	17	33				
25—35 ... ..	197	155	22	21				
35—45 ... ..	190	88	13	11	184	50	8	6
45—55 ... ..	144	45	9	3				
55—65 ... ..	77	29	4	1				
65 and upwards ...	30	17	3	1	20	13	8	5
Totals ... ..	891	594	193	173	406	239	77	73

1,851

795



TABLE 2.--Number of cases of Tuberculosis notified in each district in Kent, under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, during 1942: together with the death rates.

DISTRICTS.	Notifications. 1942.			Death-rates.	
	Pulmonary	Other	Total	Pulmonary- Rate per 1,000 1942	Other- Rate per 1,000 1942
<b>URBAN—</b>					
Ashford ... ..	24	13	37	0.20	0.15
Beckenham (Borough) ...	66	8	74	0.45	0.09
Bexley (Borough) ... ..	107	13	120	0.45	0.15
Broadstairs and St. Peter's...	7	3	10	1.09	0.44
Bromley (Borough) ... ..	80	14	94	0.52	0.14
Chatham (Borough) ... ..	57	22	79	0.96	0.26
Chislehurst & Sidcup ... ..	77	8	85	0.62	0.07
Crayford ... ..	33	7	40	0.62	0.14
Dartford ... ..	34	7	41	0.67	0.03
Deal (Borough) ... ..	18	4	22	0.50	0.17
Dover (Borough) ... ..	41	10	51	1.09	0.23
Erith (Borough) ... ..	59	6	65	0.41	0.25
Faversham (Borough) ... ..	10	5	15	0.45	—
Folkestone (Borough) ... ..	27	4	31	0.86	0.16
Gillingham (Borough) ... ..	83	25	108	0.74	0.20
Gravesend (Borough) ... ..	43	12	55	0.51	0.17
Herne Bay ... ..	11	4	15	0.32	0.08
Hythe (Borough) ... ..	8	1	9	1.42	0.24
Lydd (Borough) ... ..	—	1	1	—	0.67
Maidstone (Borough) ... ..	87	10	97	0.75	0.13
Margate (Borough) ... ..	18	1	19	0.91	—
New Romney (Borough) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Northfleet ... ..	23	5	28	0.88	0.19
Orpington ... ..	62	24	86	0.44	0.07
Penge ... ..	21	7	28	0.67	0.17
Queenborough (Borough) ... ..	3	—	3	0.37	—
Ramsgate (Borough) ... ..	31	7	38	0.93	0.20
Rochester (City) ... ..	35	16	51	0.59	0.36
Sandwich (Borough) ... ..	1	1	2	0.36	—
Sevenoaks ... ..	11	1	12	0.23	—
Sheerness ... ..	6	2	8	0.69	—
Sittingbourne and Milton ... ..	15	4	19	0.42	—
Southborough ... ..	8	1	9	0.51	—
Swanscombe ... ..	9	2	11	0.43	—
Tenterden (Borough) ... ..	2	—	2	—	—
Tonbridge ... ..	16	4	20	0.40	0.06
Tunbridge Wells (Borough) ... ..	25	12	37	0.35	0.14
Whitstable ... ..	11	9	20	0.33	0.09
TOTALS—Urban ... ..	1169	273	1,442	0.57	0.14
<b>RURAL—</b>					
Ashford, East ... ..	1	5	6	0.46	0.12
Ashford, West ... ..	13	6	19	0.25	0.13
Bridge-Blean ... ..	16	4	20	0.23	0.23
Cranbrook ... ..	9	7	16	0.71	0.08
Dartford ... ..	34	5	39	0.34	0.13
Dover ... ..	15	1	16	0.79	—
Eastry ... ..	25	8	33	0.61	0.28
Elham ... ..	6	3	9	0.68	0.27
Hollingbourn ... ..	8	2	10	0.51	0.08
Maidstone ... ..	14	8	22	0.70	0.12
Malling ... ..	36	16	52	0.84	0.10
Romney Marsh ... ..	—	—	—	0.79	—
Sevenoaks ... ..	28	6	34	0.31	0.07
Sheppey ... ..	—	2	2	0.29	—
Strood ... ..	14	6	20	0.55	0.07
Swale ... ..	14	3	17	0.47	0.06
Tenterden ... ..	6	1	7	0.16	0.16
Tonbridge ... ..	25	6	31	0.31	0.11
Totals in Rural Districts ... ..	264	89	353	0.49	0.12
Totals in Urban Districts ... ..	1,169	273	1,442	0.57	0.14
Totals for County ... ..	1,433	362	1,795	0.56	0.13

AGE PERIODS.	Formal Notifications.													Total Notifications
	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis													
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and up- wards	Total (all ages)		
Pulmonary—														
Males     ...     ...	1	6	25	26	73	107	172	171	138	72	25	816	852	
Females   ...     ...	—	7	9	12	93	112	129	79	40	28	17	526	546	
Non-pulmonary														
Males     ...     ...	1	28	43	23	13	15	20	13	8	3	3	170	175	
Females   ...     ...	1	19	38	13	18	30	21	9	3	1	—	153	157	

Showing new cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above mentioned period, *otherwise* than by formal notification.

AGE PERIODS.				0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and up- wards	Total Cases.
Pulmonary—															
Males...	...	...	—	2	3	1	3	6	25	19	6	5	5	75	
Females	...	...	—	1	3	—	5	18	26	9	5	1	—	68	
Non-pulmonary—															
Males	...	...	—	4	5	2	6	2	2	—	1	1	—	23	
Females	...	...	1	2	3	4	4	3	—	2	—	—	1	20	

	No. of	Cases.
	Pul.	Non-Pul.
Death Returns ... { from local Registrars ... .. . transferable deaths from Registrar General ... .. .	32 —	16 2
Posthumous notifications ... .. .	4	6
" Transfers " from other areas (other than transferable deaths) ... .. .	104	18
Other sources ... .. .	3	1

## Section E

The year 1942 was the first full year of working for the Council's Public Health Hospitals Service since the transfer of certain hospitals from the control of the Public Assistance Committee only took place in the middle of 1941. To give information as to the work which was carried out in the Council's hospitals the following tables are given showing certain statistical details.

	County Hospital Farnborough [1,060 beds]	County Hospital Pembury [750 beds]	Willesborough Hospital [212 beds]	County Hospital Sheppey [150 beds]	Royal Victoria Hospital Folkestone [75 beds]	TOTAL
<b>A. IN-PATIENTS.</b>						
1. Number of Admissions (including infants born in hospital) ...	8,433	5,712	2,059	1,798	1,538	19,540
2. Number of Surgical Operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations) ...	3,028	1,558	580	803	893	6,862
3. Number of women confined in hospital ... ..	1,214	797	—	233	37	2,281
4. Number of treatments carried out in massage and electro-therapy departments ... ..	45,155	63,835	1,200	7,431	16,633	134,254
<b>B. OUT-PATIENTS.</b>						
1. Total of new patients seen in Out-Patient Department ... ..	6,631	2,349	1,398	865	4,967	16,210
2. Total number of attendances ...	17,603	6,636	3,659	3,642	14,018	45,558

For hospitals under the control of the Public Assistance Committee comparable figures are as follows :—

	County Hospital Chatham	County Hospital Dartford	County Hospital Orpington	Hothfield Emergency Hospital	County Hospital Dover	TOTAL
<b>A. IN-PATIENTS.</b>						
1. Number of Admissions (including infants born in hospital) ...	3,951	4,724	5,026	811	1,017	15,529
2. Number of Surgical Operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations) ...	912	1,176	3,983	219	322	6,612
3. Number of women confined in hospital ... ..	572	850	—	—	3	1,425
4. Number of treatments carried out in massage and electro-therapy depts. ... ..	11,376	4,797	78,625	2,196	—	96,994
<b>B. OUT-PATIENTS.</b>						
1. Total of new patients seen in Out-Patient Department ... ..	522	2,885	3,000 (approx.)	476	478	7,361
2. Total number of attendances ...	3,132	23,693	—	762	2,053	—

It should be noted that the County Hospital, Dover was transferred to the control of the Public Health Committee in the early part of 1943.



Heavy demands have been made upon the County Hospitals throughout the year and it is clear that an increasing burden in regard to institutional treatment of the sick will as the years elapse need to be borne by the County Council. It will be seen that the two general hospitals at Farnborough and Pembury have accomplished a very great deal during the year, but the difficulties that have had to be surmounted have been very considerable. Restriction on building means that the work of the Hospital has to be carried on under serious handicaps, but in spite of this considerable progress has been made in applying the most modern forms of treatment to the sick. It is, however, clear that major building enterprises will be needed in the near future if the County Council is to meet its obligations in the provision of general hospital services.

With regard to nursing staff, it will be generally known that there is an acute shortage of nurses throughout the whole country and difficulties have been experienced in Kent in recruiting adequate numbers of nurses. The Public Health Committee has approved many measures towards the welfare of nurses, and a few coming into effect during 1942 may be enumerated :—

- (1) A system of scholarships has been inaugurated whereby the two best nurses in each "final" year in any hospital training school may receive scholarships to the value of £50 for a year or £25 for six months if the nurses desire to take any form of post-graduate training.
- (2) The Public Health Committee makes a subscription of £15 per 100 of resident staff in each year for provision of entertainments and other forms of recreation.
- (3) In respect of each Nurses' Common Room in the hospitals a weekly grant is made for the purchase of papers and periodicals.

During the year 1942 the scheme for the provision of complete midwifery training was introduced, and ultimately this will be a model of what a large authority can provide in the way of training facilities from its own resources. For Part I of the training the pupil midwives attend at the County Hospital, Farnborough and one of the Emergency Maternity Homes for six months, and for Part II, training they may attend at the County Hospitals at either Pembury or Dartford, doing the domiciliary part of this training under the tutelage of an approved teacher, of which there are ten, nine of whom are County midwives. It will therefore be seen that with the exception of one District midwife all the teaching is done by County staff. The scheme at the present moment deals only with pupil midwives, who are already trained nurses but it is lack of accommodation for nursing staff which prevents the scheme being extended to deal with pupils who are not trained in general nursing. In addition, training schemes have been set up at the County Hospitals at Farnborough and Pembury for the instruction of midwives in the administration of gas-air analgesia. In due course it is hoped that all the district midwives in the employment of the County Council will be trained in the administration of gas-air analgesia with a consequent improvement in the conduct of confinements in the homes of patients.

In accordance with a decision of the Public Health Committee responsibility is accepted for the provision of treatment, either in- or out-patient, when facilities for such treatment cannot be provided in any County establishment. During the year 160 patients were so helped, in the majority of cases by the provision of convalescent home treatment, but there were a number of patients suffering from cancer who were sent to non-County hospitals. The provision of convalescent home treatment has proved particularly valuable in the case of children who do not require further hospital treatment but whose physical condition is such that they could not properly be cared for at home, since with regard to such patients continued stay in hospital environment has deleterious psychological effects. The Public Health Committee also provides surgical appliances, such as artificial limbs, trusses and orthodontic appliances, as part of hospital treatment. This means that if a patient has the amputation of a limb the provision of the necessary artificial limb is regarded as part of treatment and it is supplied as required before the patient can be regarded as discharged cured.

Out-patient services are being developed as rapidly as restrictions on staff and building permit, although during the year 1942 only an early stage of development had been reached.



# VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Kent County Council is a participant in the London and Home Counties Scheme.

The following are figures relating to the work of the Kent Clinics :—

TABLE 3.—Summary of work at separate clinics during 1942.

Clinic.	Number of openings.	Number of persons removed from the register during any previous year who returned for treatment or observation of the same infection.	New Patients				Number of persons (exclusive of those under previous heading) dealt with for the first time, known to have received treatment at other centres for the same infection.	Attendances				In-Patient treatment		Patients discharged including transfers.	Still under treatment	
			Syphilis.	Soft Chancre	Gonorrhoea	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions		Syphilis.	Soft Chancre.	Gonorrhoea.	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions.	Attendances of Patients for Irrigation.	Patients.			Days.
Ashford ...	52	—	1	—	13	8	236	1,295	—	566	35	283	—	—	33	538
Canterbury ...	156	6	20	3	66	102	290	2,376	37	1,320	554	394	1	35	465	189
Dartford ...	52	2	19	—	28	136	13	550	—	307	494	2,244	4	251	203	59
Dover ...	105	3	13	—	16	54	237	1,142	—	545	133	14	2	16	268	166
Gravesend ...	105	8	40	—	88	56	75	1,389	—	714	224	1,092	—	—	361	147
*Maidstone ...	22	—	2	—	21	26	78	280	—	244	53	175	—	—	35	92
Margate ...	52	—	3	—	10	10	97	398	—	204	41	590	—	—	39	173
Rochester ...	105	1	146	—	164	151	381	3,769	—	2,026	570	4,239	—	—	949	252
Sheerness ...	52	—	2	—	1	7	28	153	—	105	18	58	—	—	19	71
Tunbridge Wells ...	52	3	18	—	38	114	84	1,105	—	320	350	418	2	19	255	112
Totals 1942 ...	753	23	264	3	445	661	1,519	12,457	37	6,351	2472	9,507	9	321	2,627	1,799

\*Figures for this clinic are in respect of the period commencing 6th August, 1942.

TABLE 4.—Number of persons discharged or transferred or who ceased to attend Clinics.

Clinic.	Number of persons discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure or after diagnosis as non-venereal.	Number of persons who ceased to attend before completion of treatment and were, on first attendance, suffering from :—			Number of persons who ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure.	Number of persons transferred to other Centres or to institutions, or to care of private practitioners.
		Syphilis.	Soft Chancre.	Gonorrhoea.		
Ashford ...	30	—	—	—	—	3
Canterbury ...	183	5	—	2	6	269
Dartford ...	181	6	—	2	2	12
Dover ...	38	11	—	1	9	209
Gravesend ...	162	15	—	22	6	156
Maidstone ...	27	—	—	—	—	8
Margate ...	28	1	—	1	9	—
Rochester ...	408	28	—	22	24	467
Sheerness ...	12	3	—	—	—	4
Tunbridge Wells ...	153	8	—	5	—	89
Totals ...	1,222	77	—	55	56	1,217

## RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE COMBINED KENT CLINICS.

				Males.	Females.
(1) Number of persons who, on 1st January, 1942 were under treatment or observation for :—	Syphilis ... ..	...	...	502	194
	Soft chancre ... ..	...	...	2	—
	Gonorrhœa ... ..	...	...	546	74
	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions			131	61
	Total ... ..	...	...	1,181	329
(2) Number of persons removed from the register during any previous year who returned during the year for treatment or observation of the same infection :—	Syphilis ... ..	...	...	9	6
	Soft chancre ... ..	...	...	—	—
	Gonorrhœa ... ..	...	...	1	7
	Total ... ..	...	...	10	13
(3) Number of persons dealt with during the year, at, or in connection with the out-patients clinics, for the first time (exclusive of persons under (4) below) suffering from —	Syphilis primary ... ..	...	...	70	20
	„ secondary ... ..	...	...	19	30
	„ latent in first year of infection ... ..	...	...	12	9
	„ all later stages ... ..	...	...	51	26
	„ congenital ... ..	...	...	12	15
	Soft chancre ... ..	...	...	3	—
	Gonorrhœa, first year of infection ... ..	...	...	271	167
	„ later ... ..	...	...	6	1
	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions			332	329
	Total ... ..	...	...	776	597
(4) Number of persons dealt with for the first time during the year known to have received treatment at other centres for the same infection :—	Syphilis ... ..	...	...	732	39
	Soft chancre ... ..	...	...	7	—
	Gonorrhœa ... ..	...	...	624	5
	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions			111	1
	Total ... ..	...	...	1,474	45
(5) Number of persons discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure or after diagnosis as non-venereal :—	Syphilis ... ..	...	...	68	40
	Soft chancre ... ..	...	...	6	—
	Gonorrhœa ... ..	...	...	268	112
	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions			407	321
	Total ... ..	...	...	749	473
(6) Number of persons who ceased to attend before completion of treatment and who were, on first attendance, suffering from :—	Syphilis, primary ... ..	...	...	4	—
	„ secondary ... ..	...	...	2	7
	„ latent in first year of infection ... ..	...	...	5	1
	„ all later stages ... ..	...	...	33	17
	„ congenital ... ..	...	...	2	6
	Soft chancre ... ..	...	...	—	—
	Gonorrhœa, first year of infection ... ..	...	...	40	14
	„ later ... ..	...	...	1	—
	Total ... ..	...	...	87	45
(7) Number of persons who ceased to attend after completion of treatment but before final tests of cure :—	Syphilis ... ..	...	...	17	9
	Soft chancre ... ..	...	...	—	—
	Gonorrhœa ... ..	...	...	21	9
	Total ... ..	...	...	38	18

					Males.	Females.
(8) Number of persons transferred to other centres or to institutions, or to care of private practitioners :—	Syphilis	...	...	...	506	46
	Soft chancre	...	...	...	4	—
	Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	526	27
	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions				102	6
	Total	...	...	...	1,138	79
(9) Number of persons remaining under treatment or observation on 31st December, 1942 :—	Syphilis	...	...	...	770	213
	Soft chancre	...	...	...	2	—
	Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	592	92
	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions				66	64
	Total	...	...	...	1,430	369
(10) Total attendances of all persons at the out-patients clinics who were suffering from :—	Syphilis	...	...	...	8,621	3,836
	Soft chancre	...	...	...	37	—
	Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	3,701	2,650
	Non-venereal or undiagnosed conditions				1,392	1,080
	Attendances for Irrigation				4,475	5,032
	Total	...	...	...	18,226	12,598

The provision of approved arsenobenzene compounds to medical practitioners producing satisfactory evidence of experience in the administration of these drugs is undertaken direct from the County Health Department. During the year, 7,805 doses were supplied to accredited medical practitioners, namely 447 to eight of the private practitioners on the list of approved medical practitioners in Kent, and 7,358 to four medical officers of treatment centres.

The number of patients under the care of private doctors for whom these compounds were supplied during the year was 72.

In cases where patients cannot receive the treatment required unless travelling expenses are paid, the County Council defrays the cost. The fares of 56 patients were paid during 1942.

## Section F

### COUNTY PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORIES.

The work of the County Pathological Services again showed an increase over the previous year : about 4000 more investigations were carried out at the Central Laboratory and 6000 more at the branch laboratories.

In connection with diphtheria there was a marked fall in the investigations carried out. It may be noted that 10 years ago the number of diphtheria specimens handled were practically half the total number of all examinations made, whereas in 1943, they were only about one twentieth of the total number.

Table 5 has been changed slightly from that presented in previous years in order to show more clearly the very marked increase in the work done in the biochemical and haematological departments of the Central laboratory.

The most noteworthy feature in connection with the bacteriological examination of school milks was the decrease in the number infected with tubercle bacilli. Of 299 raw milks examined biologically, 9 were found to contain living tubercle bacilli *i.e.* 3.01 per cent. as compared with 15 out of 301 samples *i.e.* 4.98 per cent. in the previous year. This figure is well below the 1938 level of 5.01 per cent. and shows a decided improvement since 1939 when it reached the high level of 7.5 per cent. The standard of bacteriological cleanliness of school milks was considered satisfactory in view of the difficulties encountered by milk producers and retailers.

Bacteriological examinations of main water supplies were carried out as in previous years : the main supplies were generally very satisfactory.

TABLE 5.—Showing comparative figures of laboratory examinations for the past ten years.

Year	Diphtheria Swabs	Widals (Typhoid Fever)	Sputum (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	Veneral Diseases	Water Examinations	Milk Examinations	Histological Examinations	Biochemistry	Haematology	Various	Branch Laboratories	Total
1933 ...	15,561	301	6,015	5,981	234	321	523	—	—	5,021	—	33,957
1934 ...	21,722	270	5,905	6,411	151	355	503	—	—	5,467	—	40,784
1935 ...	20,899	262	5,584	7,648	190	2,870	492	—	—	4,589	3,760	46,294
1936 ...	14,274	294	5,802	8,364	282	3,678	555	—	—	7,196	9,683	50,128
1937 ...	18,107	308	6,303	11,942	599	3,612	591	1,226	313	13,426	23,129	79,556
1938 ...	21,732	371	6,231	15,078	2,105	4,077	823	1,477	558	14,224	29,533	96,209
1939 ...	20,163	348	6,272	18,131	2,089	3,874	927	1,975	998	15,273	32,163	102,213
1940 ...	8,759	405	7,009	29,501	1,826	2,881	988	3,175	1,464	10,385	44,137	110,520
1941 ...	9,060	617	7,994	32,544	2,362	2,983	1,273	6,201	2,184	14,462	56,237	135,917
1942 ...	7,664	452	8,690	30,269	2,288	3,229	1,771	8,575	2,686	17,099	62,319	145,052



TABLE 6—Showing Death, Birth and Infantile Mortality Rates in the different URBAN DISTRICTS of the County of Kent in the year 1942.

DISTRICT.	DEATHS.	BIRTHS.		INFANTILE MORTALITY
	Net death-rate per 1,000 of the population.	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population.	Still-births.	Deaths of Infants under one year of age, per 1,000 births
Ashford U. ...	15.0	17.6	7	56
Beckenham B. ...	12.0	16.6	27	27
Bexley B....	8.8	19.1	38	33
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U. ...	20.7	13.1	—	34
Bromley B. ...	11.5	17.3	26	34
Chatham B. ...	14.6	19.1	23	81
Chislehurst and Sidcup U. ...	9.8	18.2	31	39
Crayford U. ...	8.5	19.4	9	46
Dartford B. ...	9.6	17.2	19	36
Deal B. ...	15.9	18.7	6	22
Dover B. ...	18.3	16.7	10	59
Erith B. ...	11.2	19.7	28	35
Faversham B. ...	16.2	15.2	9	66
Folkestone B. ...	17.3	14.5	11	63
Gillingham B. ...	13.7	19.3	35	57
Gravesend B. ...	12.7	20.6	18	31
Herne Bay U. ...	19.4	15.0	8	37
Hythe B. ...	20.4	16.8	3	57
Lydd B. ...	15.4	14.7	—	91
Maidstone B. ...	13.0	16.9	22	35
Margate B. ...	19.0	14.4	6	34
New Romney B. ...	23.5	20.1	2	42
Northfleet U. ...	11.2	16.8	9	34
Orpington U. ...	11.2	20.7	28	36
Penge U. ...	14.6	20.5	5	54
Queenborough B. ...	7.7	22.8	1	33
Ramsgate B. ...	16.5	16.3	4	45
Rochester C. ...	12.9	20.2	23	64
Sandwich B. ...	14.5	14.9	—	—
Sevenoaks U. ...	9.8	17.4	7	48
Sheerness U. ...	12.9	18.7	8	29
Sittingbourne and Milton U. ...	12.1	16.1	9	52
Southborough U....	16.2	15.5	2	25
Swanscombe U. ...	8.7	16.8	5	43
Tenterden B. ...	14.2	14.7	1	—
Tonbridge U. ...	12.8	17.2	10	43
Tunbridge Wells B. ...	16.7	15.0	18	42
Whitstable U. ...	17.8	16.6	1	34
TOTALS IN URBAN DISTRICTS ...	12.7	17.9	469	42

TABLE 7—Showing Death, Birth and Infantile Mortality Rates in the different RURAL DISTRICTS of the County of Kent in the year 1942.

DISTRICT.	DEATHS.	BIRTHS.		INFANTILE MORTALITY
	Net death-rate per 1,000 of the population.	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population.	Still-births.	Deaths of Infants under one year of age, per 1,000 births
Ashford, East ...	17.6	16.5	3	35
Ashford, West ...	14.5	16.6	6	52
Bridge-Blean ...	11.8	16.8	12	31
Cranbrook ...	13.2	16.6	2	30
Dartford ...	10.2	16.8	16	43
Dover ...	16.7	18.9	2	59
Eastry ...	13.8	18.0	7	55
Elham ...	15.9	17.5	1	39
Hollingbourn ...	14.2	15.1	5	24
Maidstone ...	13.0	15.2	9	43
Malling ...	11.6	19.1	19	53
Romney Marsh ...	13.5	15.4	—	52
Sevenoaks ...	12.0	16.5	13	53
Sheppey ...	10.7	22.7	5	51
Strood ...	11.5	16.8	8	40
Swale ...	11.1	16.7	7	21
Tenterden ...	14.8	13.9	4	46
Tonbridge ...	11.9	16.8	5	40
TOTALS IN RURAL DISTRICTS ...	12.5	17.0	124	43
TOTALS IN URBAN DISTRICTS ...	12.7	17.9	469	42
TOTALS IN COUNTY	12.7	17.7	593	42

TABLE 8.—Showing the Number of Cases of Infectious Disease among the Civil Population, notified in each of the URBAN DISTRICTS in the County of Kent, and the number of such Cases which were treated in Hospital, during the year 1942.

DISTRICT.	Fevers.																			Cases removed to Hospital.			
	Small-pox.	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).	Erysipelas.	Scarlet.	Enteric.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Acute Polioencephalitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Respiratory Tuberculosis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Pneumonia.	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Small-pox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	
Ashford U. ...	1	5	36	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	24	13	—	—	34	44	200	—	1	36	—	
Beckenham B. ...	7	—	75	—	—	12	5	—	3	—	1	66	8	—	—	18	65	361	—	7	49	—	
Bexley B. ...	21	21	216	—	—	23	11	8	—	1	7	107	13	—	3	47	147	532	—	21	125	—	
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U. ...	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	—	—	8	21	2	—	—	3	—	
Bromley B. ...	15	17	104	—	—	7	3	—	—	1	—	80	14	—	—	18	55	121	—	15	81	—	
Chatham B. ...	8	7	38	—	—	16	6	1	—	—	4	57	22	—	—	32	219	417	—	8	21	—	
Chislehurst & Sidcup U.	27	14	180	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	77	8	—	12	42	69	478	—	26	158	—	
Crayford U. ...	8	7	34	1	—	8	1	—	—	—	1	33	7	—	—	16	22	408	—	8	11	1	
Dartford B. ...	11	9	50	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	1	34	7	—	—	17	29	193	—	11	26	—	
Deal B. ...	5	1	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	18	4	—	—	—	2	1	—	5	—	—	
Dover B. ...	2	9	25	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	3	41	10	—	—	12	56	144	—	2	23	—	
Erith B. ...	8	—	78	3	—	1	1	3	—	—	1	59	6	—	—	51	52	354	—	8	36	2	
Faversham B. ...	1	—	15	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	10	5	—	—	7	43	3	—	1	14	—	
Folkestone B. ...	19	13	12	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	27	4	—	—	12	75	13	—	19	12	1	
Gillingham B. ...	8	—	138	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	2	83	25	—	1	59	401	846	—	8	57	1	
Gravesend B. ...	8	6	35	—	—	4	1	2	—	—	2	43	12	—	—	11	39	67	—	8	21	—	
Herne Bay U. ...	3	8	38	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	11	4	—	—	7	8	23	—	3	35	—	
Hythe B. ...	1	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	2	7	3	—	1	7	—	
Lydd B. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	9	10	6	—	—	—	—	
Maidstone B. ...	20	9	100	4	—	11	—	—	—	—	1	87	10	—	—	50	56	168	—	20	95	4	
Margate B. ...	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	18	1	—	—	2	16	95	—	—	1	—	
New Romney B. ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	3	25	—	1	1	—	
Northfleet U. ...	3	3	18	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	23	5	—	—	5	7	11	—	3	5	—	
Orpington U. ...	22	20	182	1	—	20	5	5	—	1	2	62	24	—	27	24	139	565	—	22	164	1	
Penge U. ...	2	4	28	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	21	7	—	1	6	12	110	—	2	23	—	
Queenborough B. ...	—	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	3	12	—	—	25	—	
Ramsgate B. ...	4	—	7	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	31	7	—	—	18	130	128	—	4	6	1	
Rochester C. ...	6	4	49	—	—	2	5	—	—	1	—	35	16	—	1	25	150	283	—	6	42	—	
Sandwich B. ...	—	1	11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	5	14	—	—	8	—	
Sevenoaks U. ...	7	—	12	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	2	—	78	—	7	12	—	
Sheerness U. ...	11	—	69	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	12	9	5	—	11	58	—	
Sittingbourne & Milton U. ...	4	7	95	1	—	3	3	—	—	—	1	15	4	—	—	3	101	7	—	4	84	1	
Southborough U. ...	5	—	11	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	3	49	44	—	5	10	—	
Swanscombe U. ...	—	—	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	9	2	—	—	2	6	9	—	—	—	—	
Tenterden B. ...	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	
Tonbridge U. ...	8	4	43	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	16	4	1	—	30	32	198	—	8	40	1	
Tunbridge Wells B. ...	19	16	45	—	—	8	6	1	—	—	6	25	12	1	86	20	68	56	—	17	39	—	
Whitstable U. ...	2	—	28	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	11	9	—	—	11	8	248	—	2	19	—	
TOTALS IN URBAN DISTRICTS	267	186	1826	16	—	156	72	23	3	5	47	1169	273	2	131	620	2158	6228	—	264	1351	13	

TABLE 9.—Showing the Number of Cases of Infectious Disease among the Civil Population, notified in each of the RURAL DISTRICTS in the County of Kent, and the number of such Cases which were treated in Hospital, during the year 1942.

DISTRICT.	Small-pox.	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).	Erysipelas.	Fevers.		Puerperal Pyrexia.	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Acute Polioencephalitis.	Ecephalitis Lethargica.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Respiratory Tuberculosis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Pneumonia.	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Cases removed to Hospital.			
				Scarlet.	Enteric.														Small-pox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.
Ashford, East ...	—	1	—	31	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	7	21	137	—	1	25	1
Ashford, West ...	—	—	1	18	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	13	6	—	—	11	17	34	—	—	14	—
Bridge-Blean ...	—	—	6	62	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	16	4	—	1	31	9	233	—	—	55	—
Cranbrook ...	—	27	—	16	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	9	7	—	1	23	18	277	—	27	13	—
Dartford ...	—	31	7	48	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	34	5	—	9	13	53	388	—	22	20	—
Dover ...	—	3	2	23	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	15	1	—	1	4	43	38	—	3	22	—
Eastry ...	—	5	3	46	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	25	8	—	—	24	71	202	—	5	26	—
Elham ...	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	1	27	29	—	1	1	—
Hollingbourn ...	—	4	3	28	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	—	3	3	153	—	4	28	—
Maidstone ...	—	6	—	11	—	5	3	—	—	—	1	14	8	—	—	25	54	357	—	6	11	—
Malling ...	—	50	—	85	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	36	16	—	—	—	192	435	—	—	115	—
Romney Marsh ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	21	—	—	—	—
Sevenoaks ...	—	24	—	87	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	28	6	—	1	31	92	194	—	21	86	1
Sheppey ...	—	—	2	36	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	16	7	—	—	32	—
Strood ...	—	—	—	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	6	—	—	6	29	206	—	—	25	—
Swale ...	—	1	4	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	3	—	—	7	73	181	—	1	35	—
Tenterden ...	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	8	—	6	—	4	1	—
Tonbridge ...	—	20	4	30	—	21	1	1	1	—	4	25	6	—	1	24	40	228	—	20	28	—
TOTALS IN RURAL DISTRICTS ...	—	177	32	605	2	44	18	4	1	—	9	264	89	—	14	227	759	3126	—	115	537	2
TOTALS IN URBAN DISTRICTS ...	—	267	186	1826	16	156	72	23	3	5	47	1169	273	2	131	620	2158	6228	—	264	1351	13
TOTALS IN COUNTY ...	—	444	218	2431	18	200	90	27	4	5	56	1433	362	2	145	847	2917	9354	—	379	1888	15
DEATHS, 1942—																						
Urban ...	—	17	?	3	2	9	31	?	?	?	—	511	119	?	?	482	24	3	—	—	—	—
Rural ...	—	5	?	—	1	3	8	?	?	?	—	134	31	?	?	140	5	—	—	—	—	—
County ...	—	22	?	3	3	12	39	?	?	?	—	645	150	?	?	622	29	3	—	—	—	—



Age	Sex.	All Causes.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Syphilitic Diseases.	Influenza.	Measles.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Encephalitis	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M) & Uterus (F)	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum.	Cancer of Breast	Cancer—all other sites	Diabetes.	Intracranial Vascular Lesions	Heart Disease.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia	Other Respiratory Diseases.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	Diarrhoea, under two years of age	Appendicitis.	Other Digestive Diseases.	Nephritis	Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	Other Maternal Causes	Premature Birth	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infant Disease.	Suicide.	Road Traffic Accidents	Other Violent Causes	All Other Causes										
AGGREGATE URBAN DISTRICTS.																																																
Under 1 year ...	M.	378	—	1	—	9	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	56	—	—	—	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	109	118	—	—	5	22								
1 year and under 5 years ...	F.	291	—	3	—	5	—	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	12	43	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	88	86	—	—	8	10									
5 years and under 15 years	M.	87	—	3	—	4	3	1	17	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	16	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	13	8							
15 years and under 45 years	F.	68	—	1	—	6	4	—	15	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	7						
45 years and under 65 years	M.	80	—	4	—	—	3	4	8	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	16	10						
65 years and over ...	F.	64	—	2	2	—	6	2	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	12						
	M.	589	—	2	1	—	—	154	24	7	3	—	2	2	3	12	—	44	4	4	5	53	14	24	10	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	10	15	58	60				
	F.	565	2	5	—	—	—	142	22	1	2	—	1	1	11	2	22	40	9	10	59	5	7	14	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	15	10	26	63			
	M.	1609	—	4	—	—	—	144	5	16	9	—	—	1	41	75	88	226	13	123	368	45	88	61	25	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	17	16	60	112			
	F.	1132	—	4	—	—	1	40	4	8	5	—	—	2	57	32	99	163	15	149	203	23	39	29	14	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	23	5	32	81			
	M.	3145	—	1	—	—	—	10	6	16	18	—	—	1	59	106	342	29	376	1010	161	251	116	108	28	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	18	49	345		
	F.	3374	—	1	—	—	—	11	5	4	28	—	—	1	49	79	81	253	36	495	1189	174	211	108	28	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	5	75	355		
All ages—Urban ...	M.	5,888	—	15	1	13	6	314	63	39	35	2	2	4	104	193	—	615	46	504	1435	211	369	276	73	130	36	34	122	142	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	109	138	38	61	201	557	
	F.	5,494	2	16	2	11	11	197	56	15	40	1	1	4	117	113	202	460	61	654	1454	202	272	203	47	29	25	24	157	135	9	25	88	88	103	44	27	156	528									
AGGREGATE RURAL DISTRICTS.																																																
Under 1 year ...	M.	123	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	12	1	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	11					
1 year and under 5 years ...	F.	75	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	4	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4				
5 years and under 15 years	M.	25	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2				
15 years and under 45 years	F.	12	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
45 years and under 65 years ...	M.	24	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
65 years and over ...	F.	12	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
	M.	163	—	1	—	—	2	41	4	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
	F.	149	1	—	—	—	1	30	9	—	5	—	1	—	3	3	7	6	6	—	1	12	—	4	4	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	M.	388	—	—	—	—	—	40	3	6	—	—	—	—	5	11	—	53	1	32	81	6	21	19	10	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	F.	294	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	2	5	—	—	—	15	13	17	44	4	40	57	5	5	12	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	M.	1,088	—	1	—	—	—	10	2	4	4	—	—	—	16	29	—	115	11	134	381	39	46	35	16	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	F.	1,069	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	6	—	—	—	12	23	21	78	10	133	402	22	61	45	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
All Ages—Rural ...	M.	1,811	—	6	—	1	4	92	14	12	11	—	—	—	21	42	—	131	12	167	474	45	72	71	31	36	12	8	44	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
	F.	1,611	1	2	—	4	1	42	17	4	9	—	1	—	30	39	45	128	20	223	476	29	73	69	18	14	7	2	49	24	3	7	21	28	11	5	45	164										

